

Applicants note that originally filed claim 2, which was used to support the claim 1 amendment of February 12, 2001, disclosed "wherein said mutant cells are mutated in a presenilin gene". Applicants noted in their amendment that the use of "presenilin gene mutation" was supported by Claim 2 as filed (on page 7, lines 1-2). Thus claim 3, which originally depended from claim 2 and now depends from claim 1, was also originally directed to a "presenilin gene mutation". Furthermore, claim 9 as filed disclosed cells mutated in the presenilin-1 gene, and claims 10-12 disclosed cells mutated in a presenilin gene. Since this subject matter was present in the original claims, the new grounds for rejection were not necessitated by amendments made by the applicants. The new grounds for rejection were also not necessitated by information from an IDS submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(c).

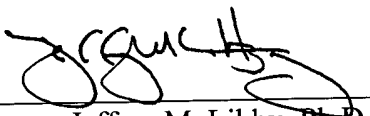
Applicants will respond to the outstanding official action in due time; this is not a response to the official action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is submitted that finality of the last Office action should be withdrawn. Early notice to that effect is solicited. If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (650) 328-4400.

Respectfully submitted,

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